

Message Text

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C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 105940

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: NATO

SUBJECT:NATO DEFENSE INITIATIVES: DPC MEETING ON PRESENTA-
TIONAL ASPECTS OF THE LONG-TERM DEFENSE PROGRAM (LTDP).

REFS: A. USNATO 4077, DTG 201829Z APR 78 (NOTAL)
B. STATE 103688, DTG 221857Z APR 78 (NOTAL)
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C. USICA 0784, DTG 090937Z APR 78 (NOTAL)
D. USNATO 02811, DTG 171601Z MAR 78 (NOTAL)
E. USNATO 04174, DTG 241700Z APR 78

1. AT 27 APRIL DPC MEETING ON PRESENTATIONAL ASPECTS OF
THE LTDP, MISSION SHOULD CONCUR WHOLEHEARTEDLY IN IS PLANS
AND EFFORTS TO DATE IN THIS AREA (REF D), ENCOURAGE

EXPANSION OF THE IS EFFORT AND OFFER ALL REASONABLE US ASSISTANCE. DURING COURSE OF MEETING, MISSION WILL NO DOUBT WISH TO DESCRIBE THE US PROGRAM (REF C) AND TO DRAW ON REF B AS REQUIRED.

2. WE SEE THE FOLLOWING AS THE PRINCIPAL PUBLIC RELATIONS GOALS FOR THE LTDP:

-- CAPTURE ADEQUATE MEDIA ATTENTION FOR THE LTDP. THIS MAY BE A MAJOR TASK. A COMPREHENSIVE, AND READABLE UNCLASSIFIED HANDOUT ON THE LTDP THAT ENGAGES THE INTELLIGENCE AND INTEREST OF MEDIA REPS WILL BE ESSENTIAL.

-- ENSURE MEDIA UNDERSTANDING THAT THE LTDP IS A MAJOR, LONG-TERM COOPERATIVE NATO UNDERTAKING IN RESPONSE TO THE CONTINUING BUILD-UP OF WARSAW PACT FORCES AND CAPABILITIES.

-- EMPHASIZE THE DETERMINATION OF THE NATO ALLIES TO INCREASE THEIR DEFENSE SPENDING TO CARRY OUT THE LTDP IN ORDER TO MEET THE GROWING WARSAW PACT THREAT.

-- SEE THAT THE MEDIA UNDERSTAND THE IMPACT OF THE LTDP ON STRENGTHENING ALLIANCE DEFENSES, THUS ENHANCING THE NATO DETERRENT AND PROVIDING THE SECURITY ESSENTIAL FOR THE PURSUIT OF DETENTE AND REALISTIC DISARMAMENT MEASURES.

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-- CONVEY THE DEPTH, BREADTH AND SIGNIFICANCE OF AGREEMENT AMONG ALLIED GOVERNMENTS THAT THE LTDP REPRESENTS.

-- CAST THE LTDP SO THAT IT IS SEEN AS A MAJOR INDICATION OF THE ALLIANCE'S HEALTH AND VITALITY AND OF ITS STRONG WILL AND CAPABILITY TO PULL TOGETHER IN A NEW DIMENSION OF ALLIANCE COOPERATION.

3. THE IS AND RELATED NATIONAL PROGRAMS SHOULD BE DEVELOPED TO HELP ACHIEVE THESE GOALS.

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